

# **Board of Commissioners Minutes**

---

**January 20, 2026 - 9 a.m.**

**Council Chambers - Courthouse Room 300**

---

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:02 a.m. with the following members present: Jebens-Singh, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Xiong and Chair Ortega. Commissioner McGuire joined the board meeting remotely pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.02, Subdivision 2. Also present were Ling Becker, County Manager, and Jada Lewis, Civil Division Director, Ramsey County Attorney's Office.

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Presented by Commissioner Jebens-Singh.

1. Agenda of January 20, 2026 is Presented for Approval [2026-033](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the agenda of January 20, 2026.

Motion by Moran, seconded by Jebens-Singh. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

2. Minutes from January 13, 2026 are Presented for Approval [2026-034](#)

Sponsors: County Manager's Office

Approve the January 13, 2026 Minutes.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Moran. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

## **PRESENTATION OF AWARD**

3. Presentation: Ramsey County Employee Achievement Award: Shannon Stewart, Naturalist [2025-541](#)

Sponsors: Human Resources, Parks & Recreation

None. For information and discussion only.

Presented by Commissioner McMurtrey. Discussion can be found on archived video.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

4. Ramsey County's Vision, Mission, and Goals

[2025-560](#)

Sponsors: Policy & Planning

Reaffirm Ramsey County's Vision, Mission, and Goals as follows:

**Vision:** A vibrant community where all are valued and thrive.

**Mission:** A county of excellence working with you to enhance our quality of life.

**Goals:**

1. Well Being: Strengthen individual, family, and community health, safety, and well-being.
2. Prosperity: Cultivate economic prosperity and invest in neighborhoods with concentrated financial poverty.
3. Opportunity: Enhance access to opportunity and mobility for all residents and businesses.
4. Accountability: Model fiscal accountability, transparency and strategic investments.

Discussion can be found on archived video.

Motion by Moran, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

Resolution: B2026-016

5. Allocation of Grant Funds from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety towards the Acquisition of Youth Healing and Treatment Homes

[2025-546](#)

Sponsors: Health and Wellness, Safety and Justice

1. Approve the allocation of Minnesota Department of Public Safety grant funds toward the acquisition of Youth Healing and Treatment Homes in the amount of \$1,950,000.
2. Authorize the County Manager to enter into the necessary loan or other agreements and execute amendments to loan or other agreements in a manner consistent with local regulations and requirements, in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

Presented by Ling Becker, County Manager; Nadir Abdi, Deputy County Manager, Health and Wellness; and John Choi, Ramsey County Attorney. Discussion can be found on archived video.

This item was tabled.

Motion by McMurtrey, seconded by Xiong. Motion passed.

Aye: Jebens-Singh, McMurtrey, Ortega, and Xiong

Nay: McGuire, Miller, and Moran

**COUNTY CONNECTIONS**

Presented by County Manager, Ling Becker. Discussion can be found on archived video.

**OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**BOARD CHAIR UPDATE**

No updates.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Ortega declared the meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

## **CLOSED MEETINGS**

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) in order to discuss federal operations updates, the Ramsey County Board met in a closed meeting, which was not open to the public.

Re: Federal Operations Update

The Closed Meeting was called to order at 10:55 a.m.

Present: Commissioners Jebens-Singh, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Xiong, and Chair Ortega.  
Commissioner McGuire joined the meeting remotely pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.02, Subdivision 2.

Also present: Ling Becker, County Manager; Alex Kotze, Deputy County Manager, County Operations Service Team; Gloria Reyes, Deputy County Manager, Safety and Justice Service Team; Maria Sarabia, Chief of Staff, County Manager's Office; Andrew Greenlee, Deputy Chief of Staff; County Manager's Office; Jada Lewis, Civil Division Director, Ramsey County Attorney's Office; Deanna Pesik, Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer; Mandy Malecek, Enterprise Risk Manager, Compliance and Ethics Office; Rose Lindsay, Director, Communications and Public Relations; Jason Yang, Chief Clerk, County Manager's Office.

The closed meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) in order to discuss the Randle matter, the Ramsey County Board met in a closed meeting, which was not open to the public.

Re: Randle matter

The Closed Meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Jebens-Singh, McMurtrey, Miller, and Vice-Chair Xiong. Commissioner Moran joined the meeting remotely pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 13D.02, Subdivision 2. Commissioner Ortega and McGuire were absent.

Also present: Ling Becker, County Manager; Jada Lewis, Civil Division Director, Ramsey County Attorney's Office; Jason Hiveley, Outside Counsel; Gloria Reyes, Deputy County Manager, Safety and Justice; Ashlee Bryant, Undersheriff, Detention Services, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office; Mandy Malecek, Enterprise Risk Manager, Compliance and Ethics Office; Jason Yang, Chief Clerk, County Manager's Office.

The Board of Ramsey County Commissioners authorized the Ramsey County staff to proceed as discussed in this closed meeting (Resolution B2026-017).

Motioned by McMurtrey, seconded by Jebens-Singh. Unanimously approved.

The closed meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.